

City Adds Parking in Veneta's Downtown Business District

Durbin Excavating, LLC was awarded a nearly \$135,000 contract for the construction of a 16-space paved parking lot on City-owned property at 4th and Broadway St in Veneta's Downtown Business District. The contract includes storm drainage facilities, curbs,

lighting, and other incidentals, with the City's Public Works crew completing the landscaping as a cost-saving measure.

Funded by the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency, the project is part of ongoing downtown improvement activities that

aim to bring downtown streets to City standards, which could help attract businesses to the area while also providing sufficient parking.

The goal of urban renewal activity is to improve specific areas of a city that are poorly developed or underde-

veloped. These areas often have old deteriorated buildings, streets, and utilities, or the areas can lack streets and utilities altogether. Currently, ongoing urban renewal work in Veneta is most visible along Broadway St as part of Veneta's Downtown Master Plan.

City Bids Farewell to Shauna Hartz and Welcomes Caitlin Hippler

The City of Veneta bids a fond farewell to Finance Director Shauna Hartz as she retires this month after nearly 20 years of service. The City also welcomes Finance and Administrative Services Director Caitlin Hippler, who has been working alongside

Hartz to ensure a smooth transition.

During her tenure, Hartz has overseen the City's financial processes and reporting, helped staff and elected representatives navigate budget issues, and implemented multiple financial software conver-

sions. Under her leadership, the City of Veneta received seven consecutive Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

In retirement, Hartz plans to volunteer, enjoy



Caitlin Hippler

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Warm Shelter, Seeking Assistance!

With winter conditions ahead, the volunteers at Valley United Methodist Church (VUMC) are preparing to activate the Warm Shelter. Each night when the temperature drops below 30 degrees, the Shelter provides a simple service for the local homeless population. A warm place for the night with a couple of meals, mats to sleep on and clean blankets. And for those who need it, a new coat, gloves, a hat, and dry socks.

But providing these

services creates a demanding schedule for a handful of volunteers. And, safety measures related to COVID-19 require extra staffing.

"We urgently need volunteers, and are also accepting monetary donations" explained VUMC Pastor Deena Wolfe. "We also need help from someone who has expertise in establishing sanitation and cleaning protocols."

The Shelter is taking extensive precautions to keep volunteers and

(See "Seeking Assistance" on page 2)

CIVIC CALENDAR OCTOBER 2020

All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted

6	Planning Commission Meeting	6:30 p.m.
7	Park Board Meeting 	4:30 p.m.
12	City Council Meeting - Urban Renewal Agency meeting - immediately following	6:30 p.m.
14	Economic Development Committee Meeting <i>Virtual</i>	2:00 p.m.
15	Municipal Court 	By appointment
17	Tree City Celebration	Cancelled
26	City Council Meeting 	6:30 p.m.
31	Happy Halloween 	

Finance Director

her family and friends as well as her hobbies, and explore the National Parks.

Hippler was most recently Director of Academic Operations at Nevada State College near

Las Vegas. She completed her Master of Public Administration at University of Las Vegas this year.

"My goal was to work in city government and support a rural communi-

ty," Hippler said. "This is my dream job!"

Hippler grew up in rural California and wants to raise her two sons in a similar environment. She loves the outdoors and enjoys hiking,

fishing, camping, and birding and appreciates the warm welcome she has already received in Veneta.

Seeking Assistance

guests safe, she continued. This includes health screening, social distancing, and face covering protocols as well as obtaining appropriate PPE. And, though the

City of Veneta helps to offset costs, Wolfe said the Shelter could also use financial support.

The Shelter is activated about 14 nights each winter. Volunteers must

participate in a one-day training program later this month and will work in shifts to share the load. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, or to make a

financial donation, email venetawarmshelter@gmail.com call Valley United Methodist Church at 541-935-1614, or venetadinner.org.

National Night Out Gathering Cancelled

Mayor Keith Weiss signed a proclamation designating October 6, 2020 as National Night Out. However, current State health guidelines limiting gatherings prevent the City in partnership with the Lane County Sheriff's Office, Lane Fire Authority and Neighborhood Watch groups from hosting a gathering event.

Although there will not be a gathering event, the City encourages citizens to work together to build a safer, more caring community. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes strong police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

Here are ways to be a part of a safe neighborhood:

- ⇒ Veneta Substation, Lane County Sheriff's Office: Non-emergency, call 541-682-4141
- ⇒ National Neighborhood Watch www.nnw.org
- ⇒ Local Neighborhood Watch groups, www.facebook.com/groups/frnw.community

Leaf Pick Up & Ditch Maintenance

Leaf Pick-up Begins October 1st

- Every Tuesday & Thursday as time allows
- Bags are to contain leaves only, no garbage or other yard debris
- Bags must be tied shut
- Place leaves in your Yard Debris Roll Cart
- Reduce flooding by not raking leaves into gutters or storm drains
- Depositing leaves or other debris in a drainage way or street is a violation of Veneta Municipal Code Chapter 13.15.010
- If you feel you were missed or want leaves for compost, please call 541-935-2191

Ditch Maintenance

Clean up drainage ditches in preparation for another rain-soaked winter. The flow of water should not be impeded in any way.

- Do not put leaves or grass clippings in drainage ditches
- When drainage ditches get blocked it causes them to overflow, leading to flooding and major damage to roads, landscaping and nearby houses
- Depositing leaves or other debris in a drainage way or street is a violation of Veneta Municipal Code Chapter 13.15.010
- Residents should be aware that some properties contain protected wetlands. Special care should be taken when removing vegetation. If you have questions about wetlands, call Associate Planner Lisa Garbett at 541-935-2191